

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of managing building options, comprising:

obtaining from a first user ~~an indication of at least one~~ a selection of a plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options for constructing a new building ~~[[and]]~~;

obtaining from the first user an indication of at least one unavailable new building option for constructing the new building, the at least one unavailable new building option not being offered as a selection choice ~~for purchase~~ for a new building option for constructing the new building, the at least one unavailable new building option comprising at least one building component;

causing the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options to be electronically accessible to a second user upon electronic transmission of a valid authorization by the second user;

providing information electronically on the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options to the second user, the provided information comprising specification and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options;

analyzing the specification and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options;

based on analyzing the specification and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options, recommending a type of building component corresponding to the at least one unavailable new building option, and providing performance information electronically on the at least one unavailable new building option recommended

type of building component corresponding to the at least one unavailable new building option to the second user ~~while preventing the second user from purchasing the at least one unavailable new building option;~~

obtaining electronically from the second user an indication of at least one choice from among the at least one available new building option;

displaying electronically, based upon the indication of the at least one choice, an amount of money remaining in a designated budget; and

providing the indication of the at least one choice to the first user.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~indication~~ selection of the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building option ~~options~~ is obtained electronically.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the indication of the at least one choice is provided to the first user electronically.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first user inputs the ~~indication of at least one~~ selection of a plurality of available new building option ~~options~~ at a first computing unit and the second user inputs the indication of the at least one choice from among ~~at least one~~ the plurality of available new building option ~~options~~ at a second computing unit coupled to the first computing unit via a communications network.

5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the communications network is a global computer network.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building option comprises at least one building component.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising electronically providing information on the at least one available building component to the second user.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the at least one available building component comprises a household appliance, and wherein the information comprises information relating to the household appliance.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the information comprises pricing information.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the information comprises an image of the household appliance.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the information comprises performance information of the household appliance.

12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the information comprises product category information.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ the plurality of available ~~option options~~ is electronically accessible to the second user upon the second user electronically transmitting the valid authorization including a valid password.

15. (currently amended) A system ~~[[of]]~~ for managing building options, comprising:

a first processor adapted to obtain from a first user ~~an indication of at least one a selection of a plurality of~~ available new building ~~option options~~ and to obtain from the first user an indication of at least one unavailable new building option, the at least one unavailable

new building option not being offered as a selection choice ~~for purchase~~ for a new building option; and

a second processor adapted to allow performance information on the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options and the at least one unavailable new building option to be electronically accessible to a second user upon electronic transmission of a valid authorization by the second user, ~~preventing the second user from purchasing the at least one unavailable new building option~~ said second processor adapted to provide a recommended type of building component corresponding to the at least one unavailable new building option based on analyzing specification information and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options to the second user, said second processor adapted to obtain electronically from said second user an indication of at least one choice from among the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options, said second processor adapted to display electronically, based upon the indication of the at least one choice, an amount of money remaining in a designated budget, and said second processor adapted to provide the at least one choice to said first user.

16. (currently amended) The system of claim 15, wherein said first user inputs ~~said indication of at least one~~ the selection of the plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options at a first computing unit and said second user inputs ~~[[said]]~~ the indication of the at least one choice from among the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options at a second computing unit coupled to the first computing unit via a communications network.

17. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the communications network is a global computer network.

18. (currently amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ option comprises options comprise at least one building component.

19. (original) The system of claim 18, wherein said processor is adapted to electronically provide information on the at least one building component to said second user.

20. (original) The system of claim 18, wherein said at least one building component comprises a household appliance, and wherein said information comprises information relating to said household appliance.

21. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein said information comprises pricing information.

22. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein said information comprises an image of said household appliance.

23. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein said information comprises performance information of said household appliance.

24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended) The system of claim 15, wherein said first processor is adapted to allow the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building option ~~options~~ to be electronically accessible to ~~[[a]] said second user, said second processor adapted to obtain electronically from said second user an indication of at least one choice from among the at least one available new building option, and said second processor adapted to provide the at least one choice to said first user.~~

26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) At least one program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of managing building options, said method comprising:

obtaining from a first ~~an indication of at least one user a selection of a plurality of~~ available new building option options for constructing a new building ~~[[and]]~~;

obtaining from the first user an indication of at least one unavailable new building option for constructing the new building, the at least one unavailable new building option not being offered as a selection choice for purchase for a new building option for constructing the new building, the at least one unavailable new building option comprising at least one building component;

causing the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options to be electronically accessible to a second user upon electronic transmission of a valid authorization by the second user;

providing information electronically on the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options to the second user, the provided information comprising specification and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options;

analyzing the specification and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options;

based on analyzing the specification and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options, recommending a type of building component corresponding to the at least one unavailable new building option, and providing performance information electronically on the at least one unavailable new building option recommended type of building component corresponding to the at least one unavailable new building option to the second user while preventing the second user from purchasing the at least one unavailable new building option;

obtaining electronically from the second user an indication of at least one choice from among the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options;

displaying electronically, based upon the indication of the at least one choice, an amount of money remaining in a designated budget; and

providing the indication of the at least one choice to the first user.

28. (currently amended) The device of claim 27, wherein said ~~indication of at least one selection of a plurality of~~ available new building ~~option~~ options is obtained electronically.

29. (original) The device of claim 27, wherein said indication of the at least one choice is provided to said first user electronically.

30. (currently amended) The device of claim 27, wherein said first user inputs said indication of the ~~at least one plurality of~~ available new building ~~option~~ options at a first computing unit and said second user inputs said indication of the ~~at least one plurality of~~ available new building ~~option~~ options at a second computing unit coupled to the first computing unit via a communications network.

31. (original) The device of claim 30, wherein the communications network is a global computer network.

32. (currently amended) The device of claim 27, wherein the ~~at least one plurality of~~ available new building ~~option~~ options comprises at least one building component.

33. (original) The device of claim 32, wherein said method further comprises electronically providing information on the at least one building component to said second user.

34. (original) The device of claim 33, wherein said at least one building component comprises a household appliance, and wherein said information comprises information relating to said household appliance.

35. (original) The device of claim 34, wherein said information comprises pricing information.

36. (original) The device of claim 34, wherein said information comprises an image of said household appliance.

37. (original) The device of claim 34, wherein said information comprises performance information of said household appliance.

38. (currently amended) The device of claim 27, wherein said method of managing building options further comprises electronically providing information on the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options to said second user.

39. (original) The device of claim 38, wherein said information comprises general product category information.

40. (canceled)

41. (currently amended) A system for managing building options comprising:

means for obtaining from a first ~~an indication of at least one user a selection of a~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options for constructing a new building ~~[[and]]~~;

means for obtaining from the first user an indication of at least one unavailable new building option for constructing the new building, the at least one unavailable new building option not being offered as a selection choice ~~for purchase~~ for a new building option for constructing the new building, the at least one unavailable new building option comprising at least one building component;

means for causing the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options to be electronically accessible to a second user upon electronic transmission of a valid authorization by the second user;

means for providing information electronically on the ~~at least one~~ plurality of available new building ~~option~~ options to the second user, the provided information comprising specification and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options;

means for analyzing the specification and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options;

means for recommending a type of building component corresponding to the at least one unavailable new building option based on analyzing the specification and performance information for each of the plurality of available new building options, and providing performance information electronically on the at least one unavailable new building option recommended type of building component corresponding to the at least one unavailable new building option to the second user while preventing the second user from purchasing the at least one unavailable new building option;

means for obtaining electronically from said second user an indication of at least one choice from among the at least one plurality of available new building option options;

means for displaying electronically, based upon the indication of the at least one choice, an amount of money remaining in a designated budget; and

means for providing the indication of the at least one choice to said first user.